

or Federal safety or pollution prevention requirements that apply to the prevention of oil spills from your facility, and demonstrate your compliance with these requirements. You also should include a description of industry safety and pollution prevention standards your facility meets. The Regional Supervisor may prescribe additional equipment or procedures for spill prevention if it is determined that your efforts to prevent spills do not reflect good industry practices.

PART 256—LEASING OF SULPHUR OR OIL AND GAS IN THE OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF

Subpart A—Outer Continental Shelf Oil, Gas, and Sulphur Management, General

Sec.

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256.1 Purpose.

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Subpart N—Bonus or Royalty Credits for Exchange of Certain Leases Offshore Florida [Reserved]

AUTHORITY: 31 U.S.C. 9701, 42 U.S.C. 6213, 43 U.S.C. 1334, Pub. L. 109–432.

SOURCE: 76 FR 64462, Oct. 18, 2011 unless otherwise noted.

Subpart A—Outer Continental Shelf Oil, Gas, and Sulphur Management, General

§ 256.0 [Reserved]

§ 256.1 Purpose.

The purpose of the regulations in 30 CFR part 256 is to establish the procedures under which the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) will exercise the authority to administer a leasing program for oil, gas and sulphur. The procedures under which the Secretary will exercise the authority to administer a program to grant rights-of-way, are addressed in part 250, Subpart J.

§§ 256.2–256.5 [Reserved]

§ 256.7 Cross references.

(a) For Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE) regulations governing exploration, development and production on leases, see 30 CFR parts 250 and 270.

(b) For BSEE regulations governing the appeal of an order or decision issued under the regulations in this part, see 30 CFR part 290.

(c) For multiple use conflicts, see the Environmental Protection Agency listing of ocean dumping sites—40 CFR part 228.

(d) For related National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration programs see:

(1) Marine sanctuary regulations, 15 CFR part 922;

(2) Fishermen's Contingency Fund, 50 CFR part 296;

(3) Coastal Energy Impact Program, 15 CFR part 931;

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(e) For Coast Guard regulations on the oil spill liability of vessels and operators, see 33 CFR parts 132, 135, and 136.

(f) For Coast Guard regulations on port access routes, see 33 CFR part 164.

(g) For compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act, see 40 CFR parts 1500 through 1508.

(h) For Department of Transportation regulations on offshore pipeline facilities, see 49 CFR part 195.

(i) For Department of Defense regulations on military activities on offshore areas, see 32 CFR part 252.

§§ 256.8–256.12 [Reserved]

Subpart B—Oil and Gas Leasing Program [Reserved]

Subpart C—Reports From Federal Agencies [Reserved]

Subpart D—Call for Information and Nominations [Reserved]

Subpart E—Area and Identification and Tract Size [Reserved]

Subpart F—Lease Sales [Reserved]

Subpart H—Rentals and Royalties [Reserved]

Subpart I—Bonding [Reserved]

Subpart J—Assignments, Transfers, and Extensions

§§ 256.62–256.68 [Reserved]

§ 256.70 Extension of lease by drilling or well reworking operations.

The term of a lease shall be extended beyond the primary term so long as drilling or well reworking operations are approved by the Secretary according to the conditions set forth in 30 CFR 250.180.

§ 256.71 Directional drilling.

In accordance with a BOEM-approved exploration plan or development and production plan, a lease may be maintained in force by directional wells

drilled under the leased area from surface locations on adjacent or adjoining land not covered by the lease. In such circumstances, drilling shall be considered to have commenced on the leased area when drilling is commenced on the adjacent or adjoining land for the purpose of directional drilling under the leased area through any directional well surfaced on adjacent or adjoining land. Production, drilling or reworking of any such directional well shall be considered production or drilling or reworking operations on the leased area for all purposes of the lease.

§ 256.72 Compensatory payments as production.

If an oil and gas lessee makes compensatory payments and if the lease is not being maintained in force by other production of oil or gas in paying quantities or by other approved drilling or reworking operations, such payments shall be considered as the equivalent of production in paying quantities for all purposes of the lease.

§ 256.73 Effect of suspensions on lease term.

(a) A suspension may extend the term of a lease (see 30 CFR 250.171) with the extension being the length of time the suspension is in effect except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section.

(b) A Directed Suspension does not extend the lease term when the Regional Supervisor directs a suspension because of:

(1) Gross negligence; or

(2) A willful violation of a provision of the lease or governing regulations.

(c) BSEE may issue suspensions for a period of up to 5 years per suspension. The Regional Supervisor will set the length of the suspension based on the conditions of the individual case involved. BSEE may grant consecutive suspensions. For more information on suspension of operations or production refer to the section under the heading “Suspensions” in 30 CFR part 250, subpart A.

Subpart K—Termination of Leases

§ 256.76 [Reserved]

§ 256.77 Cancellation of leases.

(a) Any nonproducing lease issued under the act may be cancelled by the authorized officer whenever the lessee fails to comply with any provision of the act or lease or applicable regulations, if such failure to comply continues for 30 days after mailing of notice by registered or certified letter to the lease owner at the owner's record post office address. Any such cancellation is subject to judicial review as provided in section 23(b) of the Act.

(b) Producing leases issued under the Act may be cancelled by the Secretary whenever the lessee fails to comply with any provision of the Act, applicable regulations or the lease only after judicial proceedings as prescribed by section 5(d) of the Act.

(c) Any lease issued under the Act, whether producing or not, shall be canceled by the authorized officer upon proof that it was obtained by fraud or misrepresentation, and after notice and opportunity to be heard has been afforded to the lessee.

(d) Pursuant to section 5(a) of the Act, the Secretary may cancel a lease when:

(1) Continued activity pursuant to such lease would probably cause serious harm or damage to life, property, any mineral, National security or defense, or to the marine, coastal or human environment;

(2) The threat of harm or damage will not disappear or decrease to an acceptable extent within a reasonable period of time; and

(3) The advantages of cancellation outweigh the advantages of continuing such lease or permit in force. Procedures and conditions contained in § 550.182 shall apply as appropriate.

Subpart L—Section 6 Leases

§ 256.79 Effect of regulations on lease.

(a) All regulations in this part, insofar as they are applicable, shall supersede the provisions of any lease which is maintained under section 6(a) of the Act. However, the provisions of a lease relating to area, minerals, rentals, roy-

alties (subject to sections 6(a) (8) and (9) of the Act), and term (subject to section 6(a)(10) of the Act and, as to sulfur, subject to section 6(b)(2) of the Act) shall continue in effect, and, in the event of any conflict or inconsistency, shall take precedence over these regulations.

(b) A lease maintained under section 6(a) of the Act shall also be subject to all operating and conservation regulations applicable to the OCS. In addition, the regulations relating to geophysical and geological exploratory operations and to pipeline rights-of-way are applicable, to the extent that those regulations are not contrary to or inconsistent with the lease provisions relating to area, the minerals, rentals, royalties and term. The lessee shall comply with any provision of the lease as validated, the subject matter of which is not covered in the regulations in this part.

§ 256.80 [Reserved]

Subpart M—Studies [Reserved]

Subpart N—Bonus or Royalty Credits for Exchange of Certain Leases Offshore Florida [Reserved]

PARTS 259–260 [RESERVED]

PART 270—NONDISCRIMINATION IN THE OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF

Sec.

270.1 Purpose.

270.2 Application of this part.

270.3 Definitions.

270.4 Discrimination prohibited.

270.5 Complaint.

270.6 Process.

270.7 Remedies.

AUTHORITY: 43 U.S.C. 1863.

SOURCE: 76 FR 64462, Oct. 18, 2011 unless otherwise noted.

§ 270.1 Purpose.

The purpose of this part is to implement the provisions of section 604 of the OCSLA of 1978 which provides that “no person shall, on the grounds of race, creed, color, national origin, or